

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/719,902

Examiner

Hemant M Desai

Applicant(s)

REIST, WALTER

Art Unit

3721

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 10/14/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-8 and 10-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jay Ryan on 11/23/2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Insert -- , the bags of said string are formed into rotating conveying compartments (3), or are formed outside of said compartments and are then supplied to said compartments, each bag of said string of bags -- after "bags (7)", claim 1, line 4.

Insert -- the -- after "in", claim 1, line 18.

Replace "that have", claim 7, lines 6-7, with -- into rotating conveying compartments (3), each bag of said string of bags having --.

Insert -- the -- before "conveying", claim 7, line 24.

Replace "that have", claim 11, lines 6-7 with -- and supplying said bags into rotating conveying compartments (3), each bag of said string of bags having --.

Replace "that have", claim 13, lines 6-7 with -- wherein the bags of said string are formed into continuously rotating conveying compartments (3), or are formed outside of said compartments and are then supplied to said compartments, each bag of said string of bags having --.

Insert -- said -- after "each", claim 13, line 27.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record fails to disclose the claimed device and method for packaging flat objects, including: In claim 1, string of bags (7', fig. 1) are formed into rotating conveying compartments (3, fig. 1) and bags are charged with the objects to be packaged (4, fig. 1) in the conveying compartments (3). In claim 7, string of bags (7', fig. 1) are formed into rotating conveying compartments (3, fig. 1) wherein the means for forming the string of bags (7') comprises drawing-in members (8.2, fig. 2) of an adjustable length and cooperating with the distal ends of rotating compartment elements (2, fig. 1). In claim 11, string of bags (7', fig. 1) are formed into rotating conveying compartments (3, fig. 1) and means for forming the string of bags (7') comprises circulating guides (8.7, 8.8, fig. 2), and wherein each alternate guide (8.7) is equipped with securing element (27, fig. 5). In claim 13, the string of bags (7', fig. 1) are formed into rotating conveying compartments (3, fig. 1) and the rotating conveying compartments are equipped with sealing elements (21.1, 21.2, fig. 4) that are movable against each other in a controlled manner and are adapted to produce three seams corresponding with the open sides of the bag.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hemant M Desai whose telephone number is (571) 272-4458. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 AM-5:30 PM, Mon-Thurs..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi I. Rada can be reached on (571) 272-4467. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hemant M Desai
Examiner
Art Unit 3721

HMD


PRIMARY EXAMINER